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APPENDIX

3. An apparatus according to Claim 1 [or 2], wherein the apparatus is arranged to close or reopen the gap relatively quickly such that the condition of the activity surface can be changed relatively quickly.

4. An apparatus according to [any preceding claim] Claim 1, wherein both the activity surface and the upper surface of the movable tray comprise turfed surfaces.

6. An apparatus according to [any preceding claim] Claim 1, wherein the upper surface of the movable tray is arranged to have substantially the same coefficient of deformation as that of the activity surface such that when the tray is wedged in the gap, the resultant continuous activity surface has a substantially uniform coefficient of deformation.

7. An apparatus according to [any preceding claim] Claim 1, wherein the movable tray comprises a plurality of movable trays for closing the gap with at least one of the trays being arranged to exert a wedging action in the gap.

8. An apparatus according to [any preceding claim] Claim 1, wherein the guiding means is arranged to exert a substantially horizontal wedging action at edges of the activity surface at the gap and the edges of the tray.

9. An apparatus according to [any preceding claim] Claim 1, wherein the guiding means is arranged to exert a substantially vertical wedging action at edges of the activity surface at the gap and the edges of the tray.

10. An apparatus according to [any preceding claim] Claim 1, wherein the movable tray comprises a base and upstanding side walls, the side walls comprising substantially vertical portions and upper portions provided at an angle to the vertical.

13. An apparatus according to [any of Claims] Claim 10 [to 12], wherein the tray comprises a liquid drainage grid provided at the base of the tray.

14. An apparatus according to [any of Claims] Claim 10 [to 13], wherein the tray comprises a coarse drainage material.

15. An apparatus according to [any of Claims] Claim 10 [to 14], wherein the tray comprises a top soil filling extending beyond the height of the upper portions of the side walls.

16. An apparatus according to [any of Claims] Claim 10 [to 15], wherein the tray further comprises an edging material and a soil filling, the edging material and soil filling being arranged to provide a tray edge which extends beyond the upper portion of the side walls at the same angle to the vertical as the upper portion of the side wall.

18. An apparatus according to Claim 16 [or 17], wherein the edging material comprises a porous geotextile or porous plastics sheeting.

19. An apparatus according to [any preceding claim] Claim 1, wherein the edge profiles of the activity surface at the gap and of the movable tray comprise complimentary wedge shapes as viewed in a vertical plane.

20. An apparatus according to [any preceding claim] Claim 1, wherein the edge profiles of the activity surface at the gap and of the movable tray comprise complementary wedge shapes as viewed in a horizontal plane.

21. An apparatus according to [any preceding claim] Claim 1, wherein the edge profiles of the activity surface at the gap and of the movable tray comprise complementary curved edges as viewed in a horizontal plane.

22. An apparatus according to [any preceding claim] Claim 1, further comprising a support platform for the movable tray.

24. An apparatus according to Claim 22 [or 23], wherein the support platform houses a movement system for moving the support platform and tray into the gap.

27. An apparatus according to [any of Claims] Claim 25 [to 26], wherein the movement system comprises means for raising and lowering the platform and tray.

28. An apparatus according to Claim 27 [as dependent from Claim 25 or 26], wherein the raising and lowering means comprise a set of hydraulic actuators acting on respective over-centre pivot arms, each over-centre pivot arm being connected to a wheel of the set of wheels.

29. An apparatus according to Claim [28] 27, wherein the raising and lowering means has a independent override means including a back-up pump for enabling the raising and lowering to be effected independently.

30. An apparatus according to Claim [28 or 29] 27, wherein the support platform comprises a plurality of support legs for supporting the weight of the tray and platform when the platform is in a lowered condition and from which weight can be transferred to the wheels via the over-centre pivot arms on actuation of the hydraulic actuators to place the platform into a raised condition.

32. An apparatus according to [any of Claims] Claim 24 [to 31], wherein the movement system comprises electric drive motors, the motors being pulse controlled such that the rate of movement and positioning of the platform can be varied and controlled accurately.

35. An apparatus according to Claim 33 [or 34], wherein the raising and lowering means comprises limit switch means for disabling lateral movement of the tray until the tray has been fully raised.

36. An apparatus according to [any preceding claim] Claim 1, further comprising an alignment system for aligning the edges of the tray with the edges of the activity surface at the gap at one end of the movable tray's travel.

40. An apparatus according to Claim 25 [or any of Claims 26 to 39 as dependent on Claim 25], wherein the width of each of wheel is oversized with respect to the width of the each rail so as to allow relative lateral movement of the platform and tray.

41. An apparatus according to Claim 24 [or 25], wherein the movement system comprises hover means disposed at an underside of the platform for creating a fluid cushion and raising the platform off the ground such that it can be moved laterally.

43. An apparatus according to [any preceding claim] Claim 1, further comprising winch means connectable to the tray or platform for effecting movement of the same.

44. An apparatus according to [any preceding claim] Claim 1, wherein the guiding means is arranged to move the tray such that edges of the tray move into engagement with edges of the activity surface at the gap at an angle to the plane in which at least the upper portions of the edges of the activity surface at the gap are provided.

45. An apparatus according to [any preceding claim] Claim 1, wherein the edges of the activity surface at the gap are provided with a reinforcing wall structure for maintaining the uniformity of the edges of the activity surface.

48. An apparatus according to Claim 46 [or 47], wherein the edging material comprises a porous geotextile or porous plastics sheeting.

49. An apparatus according to [any preceding claim] Claim 1, wherein the activity surface comprises a pathway.

53. A method according to [any of Claims] Claim 50 [to 52], wherein a plurality of movable trays are provided for closing the gap and the method further comprises at least one of the trays exerting a wedging action in the gap.

54. A method according to [any of Claims] Claim 50 [to 53], wherein the guiding step comprises exerting a substantially horizontal wedging action at edges of the activity surface at the gap and of the tray.

55. A method according to [any of Claims] Claim 50 [to 54], wherein the guiding step comprises exerting a substantially vertical wedging action at edges of the activity surface at the gap and of the tray.

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56. A method according to [any of Claims] Claim 50 [to 55], wherein the guiding step comprises moving the tray in a substantially curved path into the gap in the activity surface.

57. A method according to [any of Claims] Claim 50 [to 56], wherein the guiding step comprises raising and/or lowering the tray.

61. A method according to Claim 59 [or 60], further comprising providing proximity markers at predetermined distances from ends of travel of the movable tray and detecting the presence of the markers in order to slow down or speed up the movement.

62. A method according to [any of Claims] Claim 57 [to 61], wherein the raising and lowering of the tray comprises disabling lateral movement of the tray until the tray has been fully raised.

63. A method according to [any of Claims] Claim 50 [to 62], further comprising aligning the edges of the tray with the edges of the activity surface at the gap at one end of the movable tray's travel.

65. A method according to Claim 63 [or 64], wherein the aligning step comprises moving the tray laterally as the tray is being moved into the gap until the tray is aligned correctly at the gap.

66. A method according to [any of Claims] Claim 50 [to 65], wherein the guiding step comprises moving the tray such that edges of the tray move into engagement with edges of the gap in the activity surface at an angle to the plane in which at least the upper portions of the edges of the gap are provided.

67. A method according to [any of Claims] Claim 50 [to 66], wherein the activity surface comprises a pathway.

68. An apparatus according to Claim 49, wherein said activity surface comprises a [A] reconfigurable racetrack crossing [comprising an apparatus according to Claim 49].

69. A method according to Claim 67, wherein said method further includes the step of closing a reconfigurable racetrack crossing[, the method comprising a method according to Claim 67].

72. A method according to Claim 70 [or 71], wherein the weight of the first section forms a pressure contact at the inclined edge.

73. A method according to [any of Claims] Claim 70 [to 72], wherein the abutting step comprises moving the first section into contact with the second section at an angle to the plane of at least an upper portion of the inclined complementary edge of the second section.

74. A method according to [any of Claims] Claim 70 [to 73], further comprising providing a third section of the activity surface at a spaced apart location from the second section, and arranging the first section to fill the gap between the second and the third sections when engaged with these sections.

76. A method according to [any Claims] Claim 70 [to 75], further comprising disassembling the first section from the second section by raising the first section to separate the same from the second section along the inclined edges and thereafter moving the raised first section away from the second section.

79. The method as claimed in claim 70, wherein said method further includes the step of [A method of] reconfigurably assembling an activity surface in a stadium, [the method comprising a method according to any of Claims 70 to 76].

80. A reconfigurable activity surface according to Claim 78, wherein said activity surface comprises an[An] activity pitch provided in a stadium[, the pitch comprising an activity surface according to Claim 78 or 79].

81. [An activity pitch according to Claim 80] A reconfigurable activity surface according to Claim 80, wherein the pitch is turfed.

84. An apparatus according to Claim 82 [or 83], wherein the lateral moving means comprises a secured alignment means positionable at a predetermined position with respect to the edge of the activity surface and guide means providable on the movable tray to co-operate with the alignment means to align the movable tray with the edge of the activity surface prior to secure engagement therewith.

86. An apparatus according to Claim 84 [or 85], wherein the guide means comprises adjustment means for adjusting the relative position of the guide means to the tray.

87. An apparatus according to [any of Claims] Claim 84 [to 86], the alignment means comprises an elongate wedge and the guide means comprises a wheeled assembly for engaging the elongate wedge to effect said lateral alignment.

90. An apparatus according to Claim 88 [or 89], wherein each tray comprises a plurality of over-centre pivot arms each connected at one end to a guide wheel and having a hydraulic actuator provided at the other end, the over-centre pivot arms being arranged to be movable between two positions in order to effect the transfer of the weight.

95. A section according to Claim 93 [or 94], wherein the activity surface is a part of a turfed playing field.

97. A section according to [any of Claims] Claim 93 [to 96], wherein thc activity surface has regions which wear at different rates and the replaceable section is provided in a region of excessive wear.

98. A section according to [any of Claims] Claim 93 [to 97], wherein the movable tray is arranged to engage its edges with corresponding edges of the activity surface at an angle to the plane in which at least the upper portions of the edges of the activity surface are provided.

99. A section according to [any of Claims] Claim 93 [to 98], wherein the movable tray is circular in shape and the section is moved away from the activity surface by being rotated about the centre of the tray.

100. A section according to [any of Claims] Claim 93 [to 99], wherein the tray is movable on rails.

101. A section according to Claim 93, wherein said activity surface comprises a [A] racetrack [comprising a section according to any of Claims 93 to 100].

102. A section according to Claim 93, wherein said activity surface comprises a [A] sports activity pitch [comprising a section according to any of Claims 93 to 101].